

# Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Trails Update

August 2, 2016

Know Before You Go!

## General Update:

The CRGNSA Trail Crew continued clean up at St. Cloud Recreation Area, clearing brush and hazard trees along the trail. We also spent two days removing logs and brush from Larch Mountain trail and replacing trails signs along the trail. Wauna Viewpoint trail is now clear of logs. Please note ongoing Starvation Creek and Mt. Defiance trail closures.

## Wilderness Trails:

**Bell Creek-** Trail is clear of logs as of 6/30/16. Trail is overgrown in some places.

**Franklin Ridge-** Trail clear of logs as of 6/8/16

**Gorton Creek-** Trail clear of logs as of 5/4/16 (including Ridge cutoff trail)

**Herman Bridge-** Trail clear of logs

**Herman Creek-** Trail clear of logs to the CRGNSA boundary (2.7 miles) as of 6/30/16.

**Horsetail Creek-** Trail clear of logs

**Larch Mountain-** (Multnomah Falls to Basin Road) Trail is clear of logs 7/28/16

**Moffet Creek-** Trail not yet scouted

**Mt. Defiance-** Trail is closed July 22 –September 24, 2016 due to construction of the Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail. Trail will open for Labor Day weekend.

**Nesmith Point-** Trail clear of logs as of 3/16/16. Thanks to volunteers from the PCTA and Mazamas for clearing this trail!

**Nick Eaton-** Trail clear of logs as of 5/4/16.

**Oneonta-** There is still a temporary re-route in place due to ongoing rock slide. Additionally, a section of trail is washed out between Triple Falls and the Horsetail Creek Junction. **Be prepared for a difficult scramble through these sections.** The CRGNSA Trail Crew just completed building a rock wall to repair a third section of washed out trail. Oneonta Trail is now clear of logs.

## Always Carry the Ten Essentials:

1. **Map and compass: and know how to use them**
2. **Sun protection: sunglasses, sunscreen, hat**
3. **Insulation: extra clothing and rain gear**
4. **Illumination: headlamp or flashlight and extra batteries**
5. **First-aid kit**
6. **Fire starter and matches**
7. **Knife or multi tool**
8. **Extra food: at least one day's worth**
9. **Water and a way to purify it**
10. **Emergency shelter**



Photo: Example of trash collected at Oneonta trailhead

Here are a couple tips to help minimize the amount of trash left behind on trails and at parking areas:

1. Bring a backpack- you can throw your water bottle, snacks, and wet shoes inside and not accidentally leave them behind
2. Remove new product packaging at home- New backpacks, trekking poles, and all our favorite hiking gear often come with warranty and product tags. Remove them at home so they don't get left on the trail.
3. Bring a large Ziploc bag along- you can toss your food scraps and wrappers, even your toilet paper inside and pack out your trash.

**Ruckel Creek-** Trail not yet scouted

**Starvation Ridge-** Trail is closed July 22 –September 24, 2016 due to construction of the Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail. Trail will open for Labor Day weekend.

**Tanner Butte-** Trail not yet scouted

**Tanner Creek-** Trail not yet scouted

**Wahclella Falls-** Trail clear of logs

**Wyeth-** Trail not yet scouted

## Washington Trails:

**Augspurger-** Trail clear of logs on the lower section of Augspurger. Road access to the upper section of Augspurger is difficult and parts of the trail may be overgrown. At this time, the best way to experience Augspurger Trail is via Dog Mountain Trailhead, and to hike this trail as a loop.

**Balfour-Klickitat Trail-** Trail clear of logs

**BZ Falls-** Trail clear of logs

**Cape Horn-** Entire trail is now open. Please do not cut switchbacks! Stay on the trail and do not take short cuts.

**Coyote Wall/Catherine Creek-** Trails are clear of logs. We will be installing signs at trail junctions over the next few months, stay tuned for new trail names and maps. Please respect current Dog On Leash laws as well as Peregrine Falcon Closures.

**Dog Mountain-** Trail clear of logs

**Klickitat Trail-** Trail clear of logs. As of July 4, 2016 trail is closed between mileposts 16 and 28.5 due to fire hazard. Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will lift the closure when fire danger drops to Moderate.

**Sams Walker:** Trail clear of logs

**St. Cloud:** Trail clear of logs

### Oregon Trails (Non-Wilderness):

**Angel's Rest-** Trail is clear of logs. Please do not cut switchbacks! Trail crews and volunteers have been hard at work rehabbing damage to soils and vegetation because of repeated shortcutting by hikers. Please stay on the trail and help protect our natural resources.

**Devil's Rest-** Trail clear of logs

**Eagle Creek- Bridge is closed at Tish Creek.** The bridge, located approximately 2 miles up Eagle Creek trail, was destroyed in an early winter storm. This is just past Punchbowl Falls viewpoint. This trail corridor suffered from a number of downed trees, landslides, drainage problems, and flooding during the 2015/2016 winter. Thank you to all the volunteers who have worked to clear logs and repair much of the storm damage.

**Gorge 400-** Trail clear of logs

**Horsetail Falls-** Trail clear of logs

**Larch Mountain** (Basin Road to Trailhead) Trail crew has not yet scouted Larch Mountain trail above Multnomah Spur trail.



Log being cleared from Larch Mountain trail

**Multnomah Spur-** Trail clear of logs

**Multnomah Way-** Trail not yet scouted

**Sandy River Delta-** Trails clear of logs

**Wahclella Falls-** Trail clear of logs

**Wahkeena-** Trail clear of logs

**Wauna View Point-** Trail clear of logs 8/1/16

### **Pacific Crest Trail:**

The Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area works closely with our PCTA Caretakers to maintain nearly 25 miles of the PCT, in both Washington and Oregon. From Bridge of the Gods south to the Scenic Area boundary, the trail is clear of logs. In Washington, the trail is clear of logs from Bridge of the Gods north to Table Mountain.